GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1517
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003
COMPENSATION TO FARMERS
AVTAR SINGH BHADANA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that deployment of forces with heavy arms and ammunitions in four districts of Rajasthan along Pakistan border has not only destroyed the crops in several villages of these districts, but has also destroyed grazing grounds of cattles;

(b) whether distributories from Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojna for bringing water to fields in these districts have also been damaged;

(c) if so, whether the loss of Rs. 200 crore as surveyed by the collectors of the four districts on behalf of the Government of Rajasthan has been compensated by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the amount of compensation sanctioned by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): Reports of damages to the crops etc. of the farmers/people residing in the border areas of Rajasthan, due to the mobilisation of troops in those areas, had come to the notice of the Government.

Government of Rajasthan had projected a sum of Rs. 74.92 crores as damages occurred to the crops, roads and irrigation canals etc. due to mobilisation of troops. The matter was considered in the Ministry and it was decided to pay ex-gratia compensation for the damages occurred to the crops only. Accordingly, a sum of Rs. 54,31,57,580/- has been released to the State Government of Rajasthan for payment to the farmers.